THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The issue of pricing of natural gas for various uses is under Government's consideration.

LPG dealers

876. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of L.P.G. dealers in the country, state-wise, showing general category unemployed graduates, SC/ST, freedom fighters, widows and ex-servicemen separately;

(b) what steps Government propose to take to increase the dealerships in the country; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to fix up the quota in favour of SC/ST dealers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(b) Setting up of new LPG distributorship on the basis of economic viability in towns having a population of around 20,000 is a continuous process, subject to augmentation in LPG availability, bottling capacity and infrastructure facilities.

(c) The reservation quota fixed for SC/ST is being filled up under the Marketing Plans with the continuing selection of distributors by Oil Selection Boards and commissioning of the distributorships.

Petrol/Diesel dealers in the country

877. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of PETROLUEM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Petrol/Diesel dealers in the country, statewise, showing general category unemployed graduates, SC/ST, freedom fighters, widows and Ex-Servicemen separately;

(c) what steps Government propose to take to increase the dealerships in the country; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to fill up the quota in favour of SC/ST dealers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) The requisite information is given in the enclosed statement (*See* below).

(b) Setting up of new retail outlets on the basis of economic viability and the prescribed volume-distance norms is a continuous process.

(c) The reservation quota fixed for SC/ST is being filled up under the marketing plans with the continuing selection of dealers by Oil Selection Boards and commissioning of the retail outlets.

Statement

No. Of Retail Outlets (Petrol/Diesel) as on 1-2-1986

S. No.	Name of the State/Union Territory	SC/ST	UG/UEG	FF	PH/DDP/WW	Others	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Himachal Pradesh .	1	3	..	1	54	59
2	Haryana . .	15	12	3	6	369	43[illegible]

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3	Jammu & Kashmir .	..	..	..	4	96	100
4	Punjab . . .	29	28	2	8	798	865
5	Rajasthan . .	29	25	3	9	642	708
6	Uttar Pradesh .	38	38	8	18	1531	1633
7	Delhi . . .	2	11	..	15	203	231
8	Chandigarh . .	1	..	..	..	16	17
9	Arunachal Pradesh .	10	..	..	..	6	16
10	Assam . . .	10	4	..	1	248	263
11	Bihar . . .	22	34	3	7	709	775
12	Bhutan . . .	..	..	..	..	7	7
13	Madhya Pradesh .	9	29	1	10	727	776
14	Manipur . . .	4	1	..	2	7	14
15	Meghalaya . .	8	..	..	1	23	32
16	Mizoram . . .	4	..	..	..	4	8
17	Nagaland . . .	3	..	..	..	15	18
18	Orissa . . .	9	10	1	2	256	278
19	Sikkim . . .	..	..	..	..	7	7
20	Tripura . . .	2	..	..	..	25	27
21	West Bengal . .	42	36	1	18	822	919
22	Andaman & Nicobar .	..	..	..	..	1	1
23	Gujarat . . .	22	21	6	10	803	862
24	Maharashtra . .	34	32	5	18	1275	1364
25	Goa, Daman & Diu	..	2	..	..	61	63
26	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	..	..	..	..	1	1
27	Andhra Pradesh .	43	40	5	18	960	1066
28	Karnataka . .	15	32	..	8	759	814
29	Kerala . .	9	12	1	7	596	625

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
30	Tamil Nadu .	59	40	3	22	1124	1248
31	Pondicherry . .	3	1	..	1	18	23
32	Lakhsadweep . .	..	..	..	..	..	..
	TOTAL . . .	423	411	42	186	12190	13252

There is no separate reservation for widows and Ex-servicemen.

Hence no statistics on them are maintained.

SC/ST: Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes.

UG/UEG: Unemployed Graduates/Unemployed Engineering Graduates.

FF: Freedom Fighters.

PH/DDP/WW: Physically Handicapped/Defence Disabled Personnels/War Widows.

Others: General.

Kerosene dealers in the Country

878. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Kerosene dealers in the country state-wise, showing general category unemployed graduates, SC/ST, freedom fighters, widows and ex-servicemen separately;

(b) what steps Government propose to take to increase the number of dealers in the country; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to fill up the quota in favour of SC/ST dealers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) The requisite information is given in the enclosed statement. (*See* below)

(b) Setting up of new SKO/LDO dealerships on the basis of economic viability is a continuous process.

(c) The reservation quota fixed for SC/ST is being filled up under the marketing plans with the continuing selection of dealers by Oil Selection Boards and commissioning of the SKO/LDO dealership.

Statement

(As on 1-2-1986)

S No.	Name of the State	SC/ST	UG/UEG	FF/SW	PH/DDP etc.	Others	Total
1	Haryana . .	7	2	..	20	101	130
2	Himachal Pradesh .	..	..	..	3	19	16